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Indian Council of Agricultural Research or in the departmental journals. It may also be stated that originally the Fruit Specialist in his report suggested 22 sites for the development of fruit cultivation in the Ceded districts. The question of conducting a survey of the remaining 17 sites to ascertain their suitability for development of fruit cultivation is also engaging the attention of Government and proposals in this regard are awaited from the Director of Agriculture.''

DR. V. K. JOHN :—'' Are any steps being taken for the development of fruit culture in other parts of the Province, particularly Malabar? ''

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—'' Yes, Sir; the Government propose to have a fruit farm, if possible, in each district. Schemes are almost ready for attaching a fruit section to the existing agricultural farms which are now 47 in number, and almost every district will have a fruit farm.''

DR. V. K. JOHN :—'' When do the Government expect to implement that scheme? ''

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—'' We expect to implement it before the end of this year.''

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—'' If the report of the Soil Survey Officer has been submitted may I know whether it has been published? ''

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—'' I think it is being published.''

*Import and purchase of ammonium sulphate.*

* 127 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state— 11-30 a.m.

(a) the amount of ammonium sulphate imported and purchased locally for distributing the manure to the ryots in 1947-48;

(b) what the estimated requirements of 1948-49 are and how they propose to meet them;

(c) what the quantity allotted is out of the quota available to mixed fertilizers firms;

(d) whether the mixed manure is allowed to be sold freely in the market and who the beneficiaries are;

(e) the firm or firms recognized as mixed fertilizer firms and the proportionate quantity of ammonium sulphate allotted to them to prepare mixtures; and

(f) whether fresh applications for allotment for the preparation of mixtures are considered favourably, and if so, whether they are treated on an equal footing and the available ammonium sulphate is distributed to them equitably?

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (a) The total quantity of ammonium sulphate imported by the Government of India for this Province during 1947–48 was 53,000 tons. Besides this, a quantity of 5,400 tons was supplied to the Provincial Government by Messrs. Fertilizers and Chemicals (Travancore), Limited, Alwaye.

" (b) The estimated requirements of ammonium sulphate for 1948–49 are 110,000 tons. The Provincial Government have requested the Government of India to allot the above quantity for Madras Province for 1948–49. The orders of the Government of India have not yet been received.

" (c) The quantity of ammonium sulphate distributed to manure mixing firms during 1947–48 was 9,371 tons.

" (d) The manures manufactured by the manure mixing firms are freely sold in the market at the rate approved by the Agricultural department. The beneficiaries are the ryots.

" (e) There are at present 16 recognized manure mixing firms who are allotted quotas of chemical fertilizers. Out of the 16 manure mixing firms the old six manure firms in the Fertilizer Firms Conference group were given 76 per cent of the mixture allotment for 1947–48 and the remaining 10 firms were given 24 per cent. From 1948–49 the allotments will be 60 per cent and 40 per cent respectively. The names of the manure mixing firms are given below :—

(a) *Old Firms in Conference—*

1 Messrs. Parry and Company, Limited, Madras.

2 ,, Shaw Wallace and Company, Madras.

3 ,, The Scientific Fertilizer and Company, Coimbatore.

4 ,, The Mysore Fertilizer and Company, Madras.

5 ,, T. Stanes and Company, Limited, Coimbatore.

6 ,, The Nilgiris Fertilizers, Limited, Coonoor.

(b) *New Firms in Conference—*

7 Messrs. The Nilgiris Gowder Corporation, Limited, Coonoor.

8 ,, The Premier Fertilizer, Limited, Tanjore.

9 Mr. C. Raju of Cocanada.

10 Messrs. The Jupiter Manure and Bone Mills, Limited, Cocanada.

(c) *Firms outside the Conference—*

11 Messrs. A. S. T. F. Rodriguez and Company, Katpadi.

12 ,, The Cochin Fertilizers, Limited, Trichur.

13 ,, The Nilgiris Co-operative Marketing Society, Ootacamund.

14 ,, Fertilizers and Chemicals, Trichinopoly.

15. Messrs. Hindustan Feritilizers and Bone Mills, Limited, Kuppam.

16. Messrs. The National Chemicals, Limited, Masulipatam.

"(f) Fresh applications are considered in consultation with the Fertilizer Advisory Committee."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" In view of the shortage of chemical fertilizers—I understood the Hon. Minister to say that the requirements were about a hundred thousand tons against an actual import of 10,000 tons—do the Government propose to encourage the manufacture of chemical fertilizers?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Certainly, Sir; if anybody is prepared to start production Government will certainly consider the question of giving encouragement to them. As a matter of fact, the Government have taken a very large pecuniary interest in the Alwaye Fertilizer Factory."

*The supply channel to Thenpattur tank.*

* 128 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the supply channel to Thenpattur tank and Ayyampulli kolam in Kadayam village in Tirunelveli district is common;

(b) whether there was at any time dispute between ayacutdars under the tank and the owner of kolam regarding the supply of water;

(c) whether the dispute was settled by an award and the result of the award has been in force for some years;

(d) whether the owner of Ayyampulli kolam represented that the conditions of the award should be modified to ensure supply to his kolam;

(e) whether the Board of Revenue refused to interfere in the matter;

(f) whether the Government *suo motu* took up the enquiry;

(g) if the answer to (f) is in the affirmative, what the decision of the Government is; and

(h) whether such interference by the Government is in accordance with law or precedent?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" (a) The supply channel to the Kuttalampillaikulam and Kuttikulam tanks (whch are jointly called the Thenpatturkulam) and the Ayyampillaikulam and Inam Pallivasalkulam tanks in Therku Kadayam village, Tirunelveli district, is common.

" (b) There was a dispute between the ayacutdars of the Thenpatturkulam and of the Ayyampillaikulam tanks before the year 1874.